

DECLARATION under 37 CFR 1.131

Applicants: Joseph Colburn
Daniel F. Sievenpiper
Application No.: 10/764,014

We hereby declare that conception of the invention occurred prior to the reference's effective date (T'ang et al, filed August 26, 2003) followed by diligence from a time just prior to the reference's effective date until the filing of this application on January 23, 2004.

A Record of Invention (ROI - Attachment A) was completed and signed by each applicant. The ROI was submitted to the GM divisional patent contact where an invention file (GP-302990) was opened. The ROI was reviewed at the next scheduled Patent Review Board Meeting where it was decided to pursue patent coverage. Outside counsel submitted a final patent application to GM Legal Staff on August 13, 2003. (Attachment B) The formal patent application papers were sent to the Applicants for signature on September 5, 2003 (GM Legal Staff Docket -Attachment C). Signed formal papers were sent to the GM divisional patent contact on December 3, 2003 (Attachment D). GM Legal Staff's offices were closed from about December 24, 2003 - January 4, 2004. The patent application was filed with the USPTO on January 10, 2004.

All statements made of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

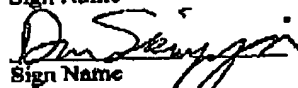
I acknowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both (18 USC 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Joseph Colburn
Print Name


Sign Name

6/20/2005
Dated

Daniel F. Sievenpiper
Print Name


Sign Name

2005-06-20
Dated